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Date: **MAR 1 1954****State Department****Thinking Scored**

EDITOR, The Avalanche-Journal: The State Department has been trying to play down Communist involvement in the rioting in the Panama Canal Zone in spite of the overwhelming evidence brought forward by the Pentagon and the CIA.

As I understand the reason for this reluctance to bring up the Communist issue, it is the State Department's wish to save President Chiari's face in the hope of facilitating a quick settlement with him.

However, this won't work and will never work. Instead, Chiari should bluntly be told of his flagrant failure in curbing the Communist cancer in the country and that consequently any revision of the canal treaty would be out of the question.

This instance of dodging the Communist issue by the State Department is not surprising. It has become an art highly developed by the State Department, from the desk level to the higher dignitaries.

This policy has been and will be the cause of our steady losses in the Cold War as, for instance, the Cuban debacle and the inevitable conquest of Laos by the Reds in the near future.

It still has not dawned on the State Department's bureaucrats that dodging of the Communist issue instead of firmly coming to grips with it will always be at our peril.

Mrs. Betty Pair,
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